

6th February 1925]

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Arms and Explosives.

Cancellation of licences to certain persons in Bellary district.

173 Q.—Mr. P. SIVA RAO : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the District Magistrate of Bellary cancelled the licences for arms of

(i) M. Lakshmi Reddi,
(ii) Pedda Sanjiva Reddi, and
(iii) Chinna Sanjiva Reddi of Molagavelli village in the Alur taluk, Bellary district, without any inquiry and without any reasons stated towards the end of the year 1923 ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the said persons had enjoyed the privilege for a very long time ; and

(c) whether the said Pedda Sanjiva Reddi pays an assessment of Rs. 2,500 and an income-tax of about Rs. 400 to the Government and is also the Chairman of the Union Board ; the said Lakshmi Reddi pays also an assessment of about Rs. 2,500 to Government and also an income-tax of Rs. 200 to Government, and the said Chinna Sanjiva Reddi is the ' Reddi ' in office of the said village ?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government have no information.

Forests.

Grazing permits in the reserves in Vellore taluk.

174 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there are a number of separate reserves in some villages in Vellore taluk, North Arcot district ;

(b) whether it is a fact that in such villages grazing permits issued for one reserve is not available in another reserve even though the two reserves may be within the village limits ;

(c) whether it is a fact that ryots have their cultivated lands scattered on all sides of the village and hence are obliged to graze their cattle in more than one reserve to secure adequate feeding ;

(d) whether it is a fact that, in summer months, cattle grazing in one reserve have necessarily to go to another reserve for drinking water ;

(e) whether it is a fact that where cattle have to be grazed in one reserve but where they are obliged to resort to another reserve for drinking water, ryots are at present obliged to take separate permits for the same cattle for each reserve separately ; and

(f) whether Government have under consideration the question of allowing cattle for which permits were taken in one reserve to be allowed to graze in any reserve lying within the village limits ?

A.—The Government have no information. A special report has been called for from the Chief Conservator on forest questions in North Arcot district and the points now raised by the hon. Member will be referred to him.

[6th February 1925]

Prohibition of the removal of green manure leaves from the reserved forest in North Arcot district.

175 Q.—MR. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state with reference to his answer to interpellation No. 1216, dated 17th November 1924—

(a) what are the reasons for the prohibition of the removal of green manure leaves from the reserved forests in North Arcot district;

(b) whether he will be pleased to place the orders passed on the subject in 1917 and 1919 on the table of this House;

(c) if removal of manure leaves is permitted in panchayat reserves, whether it should be taxed at Rs. 2 per cartload when some time back it was allowed for a seigniorage of only 5 annas;

(d) whether Government have considered the recommendations of the District Collector and of the Conservator, Third Circle, on the subject; and

(e) whether Government will be pleased to lay on the table the report of the Collector and the Conservator referred to in the Conservator's proceedings No. 40, dated 22nd September 1922?

A.—(a) & (b) The policy of the Government regarding the removal of leaves from Reserved forests was laid down in G.O. No. 1069, dated 17th June 1921, which was placed on the Editors' Table. No orders on this subject were issued by the Government in 1917 or 1919.

(c) The seigniorage was fixed at Rs. 2 per cartload by the Chief Conservator after discussion with the Conservator, in accordance with the orders of the Government mentioned above.

(d) Yes.

(e) The Government do not propose to place the papers on the table.

Land revenue and cesses remitted in wet and dry lands in the Presidency.

176 Q.—MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state so far as information is available, district by district, or if that is not possible, for all the districts in the famine zone of the Madras Presidency, the total amount of land revenue and cesses remitted in wet and dry lands; and the years during which free grazing was permitted in the forest reserves, owing to seasonal conditions from the time the (Ceded) districts came into the occupation of the British Government?

A.—The statistics required by the hon. Member cannot be collected without undue expenditure, time and labour.

Abolition of the grazing reserve in the village of Holagandi, Bellary district.

177 Q.—MR. P. SIVA RAO: Will the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the grazing reserve (poramboke) in the village of Holagandi in the Alur taluk, Bellary district, has been abolished and it has been assigned on patta to the depressed classes;

(b) whether the adjoining hill porambokes also have been similarly assigned on patta to the same classes with the result that there is no unoccupied waste within the village limits;

6th February 1925]

(c) whether there are two reserves known as (a) Kanachagara Belagal reserve and (b) Holagandi reserve within 3 or 4 furlongs of the said village and whether they are closed to grazing ;

(d) whether the ryots owning cattle, sheep and goats in the village are put to serious inconvenience on that account ; and

(e) whether the hon. Member proposes to abolish the reserves and hand them over to the management of the Forest panchayats ?

A.—(a) to (d) The Government have no information.

(e) There are no such proposals before the Government.

Civil Justice.

Official Receivers for Sub-Courts.

178 Q.—MR. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether the Government have any intention of appointing separate Official Receivers for each of the sub-courts in a district ?

A.—No.

Memorial regarding pay of peons, etc., of the High Court.

179 Q.—MR. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any memorials from peons, chobdars, etc., of the High Court with regard to their pay ; and

(b) what action he proposes to take thereon ?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Scale of fees drawn by the Public Prosecutor, etc., of Bellary and Anantapur.

180 Q.—MR. P. SIVA RAO : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) what is the scale of the respective fees drawn by the Public Prosecutor and Government Pleaders of the Bellary and the Anantapur districts, (i) for a day, (ii) for a sessions case, (iii) for a criminal appeal, (iv) for criminal revision or miscellaneous petitions, (v) when more than one case is heard wholly or in part in the course of the same day, (vi) for advice in a civil or criminal matter, (vii) for civil cases ;

(b) what is the total amount of bills per mensem drawn by them from January to October this year in the two districts ; and

(c) in how many cases during the last two and a half years the Public Prosecutor of Bellary was deputed by the District Magistrate to instruct the Public Prosecutor in the High Court and at what cost and for what reasons and in how many cases during the same period he was deputed to appear in the Sessions Court of another district or to appear before Magistrates' Courts in the same district and at what cost and for what reasons ?

[6th February 1925]

- A.—(a) Government Pleaders and Public Prosecutors are entitled to the full regulation fee irrespective of the result in civil cases. In criminal cases the payment of fees is left to the discretion of the District Magistrate subject to a maximum of Rs. 30 for each case which does not last for more than one day. No fee is payable for advice in civil or criminal cases.
- (b) & (c) The Government have no information.

Irrigation.

The Basavanna channel scheme.

181 Q.—Mr. P. SIVA RAO: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Basavanna channel scheme has since been sanctioned by the Government; if so, at what cost; and when the construction of the new work is likely to commence; and

(b) whether he will state the full details of the said scheme?

A.—(a) Yes. The estimated cost of the scheme is Rs. 4.24 lakhs including direct and indirect charges. The work is likely to be commenced in 1925-26.

(b) The Basavannah channel in the Bellary district is the first of a series of channels taking off from the Tungabhadra river on its right bank in British territory. This channel takes off above a masonry anicut called the Valvapur anicut and runs to a distance of twelve miles five furlongs. It is now proposed to extend it for a length of seven miles one furlong. The scheme is intended to supply water for the irrigation of 2,000 acres of new lands, to give additional supply to the Roya channel lower down and to ensure a steady supply in the Basavannah and Roya channels and also in the Kamalapur tank.

Police.

Police officers in the Presidency.

182 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of (i) Deputy Inspectors-General, (ii) District Superintendents of Police, (iii) Personal Assistants, (iv) Deputy Superintendent of Police in independent charge, and (v) Circle Inspectors of Police in the Presidency;

(b) whether any alteration in the number of each of the above officers is contemplated and, if so, why;

(c) how many officers of each of the first three classes are in actual and independent charge of any district, subdivision, circle or taluk and whether any change is contemplated in this matter;

6th February 1925]

(d) how many are merely in charge of supervision or assisting other officers ;

(e) how many of each class were on special duty in the year ending with March 1924 and March 1925 and the nature of their duty ; and

(f) the report of the special work done and the cost of the same to the Government including that of the special staff, if any ?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to the monthly list of Gazetted Police officers in respect of items (i) to (iv) and to the half-yearly list of subordinate Police officers in respect of item (v).

(b) (i) *Deputy Inspectors-General*.—No change.

(ii) *District Superintendents of Police*.—In connexion with the bifurcation of the Kistna district the Government of India have been addressed to obtain the sanction of the Secretary of State for the creation of an additional post of District Superintendent of Police.

(iii) *Personal Assistants*.—These have been abolished.

(iv) *Deputy Superintendents of Police*.—The abolition of personal assistants results in the permanent addition of a Deputy Superintendent of Police to the cadre.

(v) *Circle Inspectors*.—No change.

(c) & (d) The question is not intelligible. Each officer in charge of a circle is subordinate to the officer in charge of a subdivision and so is not independent. Subdivisional officers are subordinate to district officers. The actual postings of officers appear in the monthly list of Gazetted Police officers.

(e) & (f) Two lists ^a are placed on the table. The approximate cost of the special duty is included in the list but this does not indicate the actual extra cost, had the officers not been so deputed.

Mr. Happell's report on the Fituri has been published : Messrs. Hitchcock's and Cunningham's reports have not yet been published. The other officers were not called upon to write special reports.

Executive Council.

Appointment of an official as a Member of the Executive Council.

183 Q.—MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state the reason why, contrary to the recommendation of the Joint Select Committee, 1919, the Government have appointed to the Executive Council a third member with service qualifications, while there are already two such members in it ?

A.—As the appointment in question was a temporary arrangement the recommendation of the Joint Select Committee could not apply.

^a Printed as Appendix III on pages 443-446 infra.

[6th February 1925]

Finance.*The Provincial contribution to the Central Government.*

184 Q.—Mr. C. GOPALA MENON : Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state, with reference to the speeches made by the hon. the Revenue Member (Sir Muhammad Habib-ul-lah) and the hon. the Finance Member during the debate on the resolution regarding flood relief on 16th October 1924—

(a) whether any legal opinion was obtained to the effect that the Devolution rules stood in the way of the Government of India granting the promised relief to this province in the matter of annual contribution to the Central Government; and, if not, the reasons why the hon. Members gave expression to such view; and

(b) what the attitude of the Local Government is in regard to Provincial contribution and whether the claims of Madras were strongly pressed at the recent Conference at Delhi by the hon. the Finance Member and with what result?

A.—(a) No legal opinion has been obtained in the matter nor do the Government consider it necessary to do so. Rule 18 of the Devolution Rules prescribes the method to be followed regarding the reduction to be made in the contributions of the Provincial Governments when for any year the Governor-General in Council determines as the total amount of the contribution a smaller sum than that payable for the preceding year. The question whether any reduction of the Provincial contribution can be made in any year depends upon the financial position of the Government of India.

(b) This Government have repeatedly urged on the Government of India on the necessity for the entire remission of the Provincial contribution and the Government of India have given an undertaking that they would shape their financial policy towards the reduction and ultimate extinction of the contributions.

Report regarding the Melur union board.

185 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO : Will the hon. the Member for Finance and the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the final report regarding the irregularities of the Melur union board has since been received;

(b) whether the signatories to the petition or any other witnesses have been examined in connexion with the allegations made therein, and, if so, who they are and how many on the whole;

(c) whether any charges have been framed against anybody and, if so, against whom and with what result;

(d) who was deputed to go into the matter and whether the person so deputed had any personal, direct or indirect interest in the matter; and

(e) when were the accounts of the said union last checked and if the audit report and objection will be placed on the table of this House?

6th February 1925]

- A.—(a) The answer is in the affirmative.
 (b) The Government have no information.
 (c) The answer is in the negative.
 (d) The Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.
 (e) The last audit of the accounts of the union board commenced on 17th October 1924, and ended on 20th October 1924. A copy^a of the report is laid on the table. The reply of the union board has not been received and will be placed on the table on receipt.

Government orders regarding supplies to officers on tour.

186 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Finance and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) what are all the Government Orders regarding supplies to Government officers when on tour, and whether the Government will be pleased to place them on the table of the House;
 (b) whether subordinates are expected to supply to their official superiors, or whether they are permitted to do so;
 (c) whether the bills for supplies are sent up to departmental heads;
 (d) what the average amount of expenditure of officers of each grade is as tested by the bills for supplies; and
 (e) what steps are taken to see that bills are in practice actually paid for and at the prevailing market rates?

A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the following Government Orders which have been placed on Editors' Table:—

G.O. No. 2487, Revenue, dated 15th August 1911, as modified by G.O. No. 2361, Revenue, dated 3rd August 1912.
 G.O. No. 1478, Revenue, dated 29th June 1916.
 G.O. No. 1300, Revenue, dated 5th May 1917.
 G.O. No. 1958, Revenue, dated 14th August 1920 (paragraph 8).

The existing rules are contained in B.S.O. Nos. 112 and 113.

- (b) Village headmen are expected to provide for supplies to officers on tour of articles that are sold or can be procured locally. No other officer is ordinarily expected to make such supplies.
 (c) & (e) The hon. Member is referred to the provisions of paragraph 2 of B.S.O. No. 112 and rules 4 and 5 in paragraph 2 of B.S.O. No. 113.
 (d) The Government have no information.

Famine.

Famine work-spot.

187 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) the number of famine work-spots when the special famine officer was appointed;

^a Printed as Appendix IV on pages 446-447 infra.

[6th February 1925]

- (b) when they were first started ;
 (c) when they were closed ; and whether the closing was by the special officer or the Collector ;
 (d) whether there were any representations made to the Collector requesting the continuation of the famine works in certain localities ;
 (e) whether the said representations were considered by the Collector or by the famine officer ; and
 (f) whether the Government would be pleased to lay on the table of this House a detailed statement of the inquiries made in this behalf and the result arrived at ?

A.—(a) Nine.

(b)—

Works.		Date of opening.
Gooty taluk—		
Chikkalagurki		17th September 1924.
Uravakonda		16th August 1924.
Madakasira taluk—		
Muthukkur		21st August 1924.
Madakasira		10th May 1924.
Agali		16th May 1924.
Penukonda taluk—		
Kothacheruvu		23rd June 1924.
Nagalore		About the end of August 1924.
Dharmavaram taluk—		
Apparasacheruvu		11th August 1924.
Hindupur taluk—		
Lapakshi		26th August 1924.

- (c) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to clauses (a) and (b) of question No. 1231 asked at the last session. The works were closed under the orders of the Collector.
 (d) & (e) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to clauses (d) and (e) of question No. 1231 asked at the last session.
 (f) No enquiry was made of the Collector as it did not appear that any useful purpose would be served in making such enquiry so long after the event, as Government were satisfied that the works were properly closed and as they had no doubt that the Collector would have given due consideration to all representations received by him at the time.

The Peoples' Trusts Fund.

188 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the application for Rs. 25,000 to the Peoples' Trusts Fund, referred to by the hon. the Member for Revenue in his speech in the Legislative Council on 15th October 1924, has been sanctioned ;

(b) when the disbursement is to be made and to which of the taluks and to what extent ; and

(c) what the distributing agency is to be and whether non-official opinion would be considered in the matter ?

6th February 1925]

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) The Collector of Anantapur was instructed on 23rd December 1924 to make immediate arrangements for supplying clothing to those in want in the distressed areas of the district making the fullest use of non-official agencies wherever possible. He was also asked to submit a report as soon as possible as to the progress made in the distribution. The report is awaited.

Irrigation.

Collection of penal water-rates in Kistna and Godavari.

189 Q.—Mr. P. PEDDIRAJU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state the amount of penal water-rates collected in the Kistna and Godavari districts for the fasli years of 1327 to 1334?

A.—Particulars for districts are not available with the Government. Figures for the whole Presidency for faslis 1327 to 1332 will be found in Statement No. 9 of the annual jamabandi reports which have been placed on the Editors' Table. The jamabandi report for fasli 1333 has not yet been received by the Government.

Land Revenue.

Resolutions passed at the Conference of Mirasidars of Mayavaram taluk.

190 Q.—Mr. P. SIVA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received a copy of the resolutions unanimously passed at the Conference of the Mirasidars of the Mayavaram taluk in the Tanjore district held under the auspices of the Mayavaram Taluk Mirasidars' Association on the 24th of October 1924 at Mayavaram; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken thereon?

A.—(a) & (b) No resolutions of a Conference held on the date stated have been received.

Registration.

Substitution of the word 'Kudi' for the word 'Mirasidars'.

191 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether any instructions have been issued in the Registration department requiring the Mirasidars of Tanjore district to state their occupation as Kudi and not as Mirasidars and, if so, the reasons why?

A.—Government have recently drawn the attention of officers to the rule issued before, which has not been strictly followed, that the term 'Kudi' should be used in official documents when ryotwari landholders are referred to instead of the term 'Mirasidar'.

Local Boards and Municipal Councils.

Village panchayats invested with powers over irrigation and forests.

192 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state the number of village panchayats formed under the Act of 1920, which are actually invested with powers over (i) irrigation and (ii) forests?

[6th February 1925]

A.—Three village panchayats have been empowered to manage turns of irrigation and a fourth has been empowered to control village forests.

Village panchayats in the Presidency.

193 Q.—MR. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of village panchayats formed under the Village Panchayat Act of 1920 in each of the districts;

(b) the nature and quantity of work turned out by the panchayats till now;

(c) the powers asked for by the panchayats and the orders passed on the applications in that behalf;

(d) what, if any, are the powers included in the sections 15 to 19 of the said Act, which are the powers actually conferred on the panchayats,

(i) before the budget discussion of March 1924,

(ii) and since then and on each of the panchayats;

(e) whether any rules have been framed under the Act; whether they have been communicated to the panchayats; whether the Government would be pleased to lay them on the table of the House;

(f) whether any panchayat conferences have been held in the last four years; whether they have communicated any resolutions for the consideration of the Government and if so, what they are and what action has been taken by the Government or is proposed to be taken thereon;

(g) whether the Government have estimated the revenue derivable by the panchayats if all the powers contemplated by the present Act are given to them and if so what is the estimated income and how and to what extent, if at all, it is likely to affect the finances of the local boards or the Government;

(h) whether any legislation is contemplated to curtail the scope of the powers that can be delegated under the present Act and if so the reasons for the contemplated legislation; and

(i) whether the Government have found the present Act defective or wanting in any particular and if so what it is?

A.—(a) A statement^a showing the number of panchayats in each district is placed on the table.

(b) The work turned out by panchayats is of a varied character. The methods employed and the quantity turned out also vary largely. It is difficult in answer to a question to give a description of the nature of the work done by all panchayats or to estimate the quantity of work done by them. The copies of * proceedings of the Registrar-General placed on the table furnish samples of the work done by one panchayat in the Tamil and another in the Telugu districts.

(c) & (d) Section 15 enumerates the functions which panchayats may exercise subject to such rules as the Local Government may frame. No rules have been framed as regards the functions referred to in clauses (i) to (vii), (ix), (xiii), (xv) and (xvi) and panchayats are attending to all or some of these functions according to the funds they are able to raise. Rules under

^a Printed as Appendix V on pages 448-465 infra.

6th February 1925]

clause (viii) have been framed and under them many panchayats have applied to Revenue Divisional Officers and Collectors for transfer of control over communal porambokes. Rules and instructions have also been issued under clauses (xi) and (xii) and many panchayats are exercising these powers. Instructions as regards clause (x) are under consideration. The Government have decided not to permit the control of pounds by panchayats (clause xiv).

Section 16 enumerates the functions which district and taluk boards may authorize panchayats to exercise and has been availed of in a considerable number of cases. Taluk boards have generally complied with the requests from panchayats under clauses (i) to (iv) of section 16. A set of model conditions subject to which panchayats may be entrusted with supervision over board elementary schools has been circulated to both taluk boards and panchayats and a considerable number of panchayats are exercising this supervision. Some panchayats are running schools of their own and several have provided at their own cost accommodation for village schools. Three of them have applied for the introduction of free and compulsory education. Some panchayats have interested themselves in medical relief. One is running an Ayurvedic dispensary; another is maintaining a village vaidyan; and a third with the help of the taluk board is subsidizing a registered medical practitioner who visits the village once a week. Some panchayats have applied for the location in their jurisdiction of a dispensary under the new system of rural medical relief.

Only one village forest has under section 17 been transferred to a panchayat so far, but this is not a reserved forest. Other applications for transfer of village forests have either been declined or are still pending with the Forest department. A considerable number of panchayats are attending to irrigation functions informally or at the request of ayacutdars though Government have passed formal orders under section 19 only in four cases, in three of which they sanctioned the regulation by the panchayat of turns of irrigation, rejecting the request in the other case.

Panchayats have under section 19 taken over duties of various kinds at the request of the villagers including the building of places of worship and the conduct of festivals. The rules under which the Government have authorized panchayats to supervise aided elementary schools also fall under this section.

So far as the exercise of powers under sections 15 to 19 is concerned, the budget discussion of March 1924 is not responsible for any departure in policy or practice.

- (e) Rules have been framed under the Act and a set of such rules is communicated to panchayats as soon as they are constituted. One set is placed on the table.
- (f) Two Panchayat Conferences have been held so far, the first by the panchayats of Tiruppattur taluk, North Arcot district, at Nattarampalli in July 1924; and the second by those of the

[6th February 1925]

Anantapur district in November 1924. Copies of the resolutions passed at the former have been received and are under consideration.

- (g) The Government have made no such estimate.
- (h) No such legislation is in contemplation.
- (i) The question of amending the Act is under consideration. When the amendments are settled, they will be published.

Government Order on the administration of the Trichinopoly municipality.

194 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government permitted Mr. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib to publish a copy of G.O. No. 1771, dated 30th June 1924, while permission for publication of the same had been refused to Mr. F. G. Natesa Ayyar, the Chairman of the Municipal Council, Trichinopoly, with whose administration the Government Order mainly dealt and if so, the reasons for the permission in the one case and refusal in the other; and

(b) whether they furnished Mr. F. G. Natesa Ayyar, Chairman of the Municipal Council of Trichinopoly, with a copy of the reports of the Inspector of the Municipal Council and connected documents and called for his explanation, before they issued the G.O. No. 1771, L. & M., dated 30th June 1924, severely censuring the administration of the chairman?

- A.—(a) Neither Mr. Kalifulla Sahib nor Mr. Natesa Ayyar applied for permission.
- (b) No.

Planting of trees on roadsides in the Presidency.

195 Q.—Mr. M. RATNASWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what is the total mileage of roads in this Presidency that are protected by avenues of trees;

(b) whether Government have any policy in regard to the planting of trees on the roadsides;

(c) whether the local boards have any such policy; and

(d) whether any, and if so what, sum of money has been spent by either Government or the local board on this item in the last five years?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to Annexure O to the report on the working of local boards in the Presidency for 1922–23 which has been placed on Editors' Table.

(b) The Government have issued instructions to local boards on the subject. They are contained in G.Os. No. 107 L., dated 24th January 1918, No. 2706, L. & M., dated 4th December 1923, and No. 1448, L. & M., dated 30th May 1924, which are placed on the table.

(c) Local boards use their own discretion in the matter.

(d) The hon. Member is referred to the annexures similar to that referred to in the answer to clause (a) above appended to the reports on the working of local boards.

6th February 1925]

Amalgamation of Rayadrug Taluk Board with Bellary Taluk Board.

196 Q.—MR. P. SIVA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Taluk Board of Bellary has expressed its unwillingness to take in Rayadrug unless the resulting loss is compensated by the Government;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the proposed abolition of the Taluk Board of Rayadrug is opposed to the recommendation of the Decentralization Commission that every tahsil should command a taluk board;

(c) in what stage is the whole question; when are final orders likely to be passed;

(d) what would be the effect of the abolition of the Rayadrug Taluk Board in the constitution of the other taluk boards; whether it is a fact that all the taluk boards in the district have to be dissolved and new bodies should be constituted afresh;

(e) whether the Government propose to resort to nomination at the outset for filling up the vacancies among the members of the constituted boards or to throw them open for election; and

(f) whether it is a fact that the Taluk Boards of Hospet and Bellary will sustain a loss if Kudligi and Rayadrug taluks are (tacked) on to them respectively under the proposed re-arrangement?

A.—(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) The Royal Commission on Decentralization stated that "the taluk or tahsil will *ordinarily* be the best jurisdictional unit for sub-district boards" but they did not press for change where subdivisional boards had been working or might be made to work, *satisfactorily* by enlisting public interest in their proceedings. As the finances of the Rayadrug Taluk Board are not satisfactory, and it is not possible to improve them and make the Board work satisfactorily, its abolition is not opposed to the principle enunciated by the Royal Commission.

(c) & (d) The Government have decided to abolish the Rayadrug Taluk Board and reconstitute the taluk boards in the district as shown below:—

Name of taluk board as proposed to be reconstituted.	Names of revenue taluks comprising each taluk board.
Adoni	Adoni and Alur.
Bellary	Bellary and Rayadrug.
Hospet	Hospet and Kudligi.
Harpanahalli	Harpanahalli and Hadagalli.

(e) The Government propose to resort to nomination at the outset.

(f) No. The saving in management charges due to abolition of the Rayadrug Taluk Board will cover the deficit in the revenues of the Hospet and Bellary Taluk Boards consequent on the addition of Kudligi and Rayadrug taluks respectively.

[6th February 1925]

Medical.*Evidence in a case of alleged enucleation of the eyeball of some person.*

197 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether Major Wright and Dr. Verghese gave evidence for the prosecution in the case against some of the relatives of the Zamindar of Palghat for alleged enucleation of the eyeball of some person ;

(b) whether Major Gray, I.M.S., appeared as a witness for the defence in the same case and his evidence was not accepted by the trying magistrate ; and

(c) whether the Medical Council or the Government have taken steps to enquire into the circumstances under which such evidence was given ?

A.—(a) Major R. E. Wright, I.M.S., gave evidence in the case as a Court witness at the instance of the prosecution. Dr. A. N. Verghese gave evidence as a witness for the prosecution.

(b) The answer is in the affirmative.

(c) The Government have made enquiries into the matter.

Education.*Government training centre for women in the Guntur district.*

198 Q.—Mr. P. ANJANEYALU: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether he is aware that there is no Government training centre for women in the Guntur district ?

A.—There is one Government training school for Muhammadan women in the district. In addition there are three aided Mission training schools for women.

Registration.*Indian Christians in the Registration Department.*

199 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state with reference to question No. 706 (pages 856—858, Proceedings, Volume XVII)—

(a) the standards fixed to measure the extent of representation to which each community is entitled ;

(b) the proportion of Indian Christians in the Registration Department that justifies the statement that the community is over-represented ; and

(c) on what principle representation or over-representation is estimated ?

A.—(a) & (c) With reference to the principles enunciated in G.O. No. 658, Public, dated the 15th August 1922, it has been the aim of the Government to secure due representation to the several communities in the department on the principles laid down therein.

(b) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 431 given at the meeting of the 22nd August 1924.

6th February 1925]

Co-operation.

Audit orders on the working of co-operative unions in Coimbatore.

200 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Assistant Registrar, Coimbatore, does not issue any audit orders on the working of the co-operative unions in his district; and

(b) whether such audit orders are issued in other sections and whether the department has not prescribed any uniform procedure in this respect?

A.—(a) & (b) 'Audit orders' are issued in regard to societies the net profits of which have to be determined by the Assistant Registrar. In the case of unions there is no question of determining net profits, so no 'audit orders' are issued though the accounts are duly audited.

As there is a difference between the two cases, a uniform procedure is not applicable.

Direct recruitment of Assistant Registrars of Co-operative department.

201 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state how many Assistant Registrars, other than Deputy Collectors, have been directly recruited from outside the Co-operative department and how many from among the subordinates of the department.

A.—Nine and two respectively.

Safeguards against frauds in primary co-operative societies.

202 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any checks against fraud being practised by the secretary or panchayatdars of primary co-operative societies and other co-operative institutions against pro-notes and bonds being obtained in pseudonymous names and if so, what they are;

(b) whether the Government have made enquiries as to the occurrences of such cases in each district and if so the result of such enquiries; and

(c) what is the total number of cases, if any, in the whole Presidency, of such cases and how many, if at all, were dealt with under the criminal law?

A.—(a) No special check has been prescribed. Proper management and supervision of societies in accordance with recognized co-operative principles may be expected to make such frauds difficult.

(b) No.

(c) The Government have no information.

Properly statements in the case of primary co-operative societies.

203 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) how often property statements are to be prepared, revised or checked and by whom, in the case of primary co-operative societies in any given period;

[6th February 1925]

(b) whether there is any check to guarantee that there is no exaggeration in the said statement

(c) whether there is any by-law or rule that property statements should be revised (i) every time a loan is applied for, (ii) every time there is fall in membership owing to death, resignation or expulsion, (iii) every year; if so, whether the by-law or rule is being strictly observed in practice;

(d) whether all the inspectors are required by rules to send notes of their inspection of societies to the financial banks and whether such directions, if any, are followed in practice; and

(e) what steps, if any, are contemplated by the Government to improve the security for the loan advanced to primary societies by putting all financing banks in better touch with the actual position of the primary societies?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government understand that departmental instructions are to the effect that property statements should, if possible, be prepared at a general body meeting or at least in the presence of as many members as possible. The advice and help of the village officers should be invited for the correct preparation of the statements. The statements should be revised every year, i.e., once a year. They should be brought for the consideration of the general body and the case of each member should be considered. Any alteration that is necessary should be made; and, if no alteration is considered necessary, that fact should be mentioned in the register itself.

(c) The hon. Member is referred to Rule VII (c) of the rules issued under section 43 of the Co-operative Societies Act, 1912. Every endeavour is made to enforce the rule.

(d) There are no such rules.

(e) The Government do not propose to take any steps. The directors of a financing bank can at any time inspect primary societies which the bank has financed, in order to ascertain whether the money lent by the bank to the society is safe.

II

MOTION FOR THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE TO DISCUSS THE RIGOROUS COLLECTION OF LAND REVENUE IN THE TANJORE DISTRICT.

[Note.—The asterisk at the beginning of each speech indicates revision by the Member.]

* Mr. S. MUTTAYYA MUDALIYAR :—“ Under Standing Order No. 20 I beg to move the adjournment of the business of the Council to consider an urgent matter of public importance, namely, the situation created in the Tanjore district by the rigorous collection of the enhanced land revenue even for lands that have not been cultivated and before any orders have been passed on the remission applications in the present famine-stricken condition of the district a large extent of land being uncultivated and the yield of the cultivated lands being very much below the normal.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ Hon. Members have heard the terms of the statement. I have to find first of all whether the matter is in order. Do the Government wish to say anything? (After a pause). There might be an objection under sub-clause (4) of Rule 12 which says that the motion